

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 3313

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1892.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER



Banks.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,
LIMITED.

Authorized Capital..... \$1,000,000
Subscribed Capital..... \$300,000

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors—
D. Gillies, Esq. | Chow Tung Shang, Esq.
Chen Kit Shan, Esq. | W. Weston, Esq.
C. J. Hirst, Esq. | Kwan Ho Chuen, Esq.
Chief Manager, | GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN
LONDON—

THOMAS CARMICHAEL, Esq.—Messrs. Dent,
Palmer & Co.

JOHN BUTTERY, Esq.—Messrs. John Butterly &
Co.

C. B. STUART-WORTLEY, Q.C., M.P.

GEO. MUNRO, Manager.

BANKERS—

Parry Banking Co. and The Alliance Bank (Ltd.)
The Commercial Bank of Scotland,
Yokohama—D. Fraser, Manager,
Shanghai—J. Galloway, Manager,
Amoy—J. Anderson, Manager,
With sub-Branch at Foochow.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened. Money
received on Deposit. Drafts issued. Bills
purchased and collected. Advances made on
Securities or goods in neutral Godowns. Usual
Bank-Agency business undertaken.

Interest for 12 months fixed per Cent.

6 " " 4 "

CURRENT ACCOUNTS 3 "

For Rates of Interest for other periods apply
to the Manager.

Hongkong, 26th November, 1892.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,
LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE SIXTH CALL OF ONE POUND (£1)
per Share, making £3 in all, is payable
on or before 8th December next, at the current
rate of exchange.

When making payment, Shareholders will
please send their provisional Certificates in
order that they may be exchanged for permanent
Certificates shewing £3 paid up.

Residents at YOKOHAMA, SHANGHAI, AMoy
and FOOCHOW can pay at the Bank's Branches
there.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 5th November, 1892.

CHINA MERCHANTS' STEAM NAVIGA-

TION COMPANIES' DEBENTURE

LOAN OF 1886.

28th INTEREST.

INTEREST DUE on BONDS of this LOAN
will be payable at the Offices of the Hong-
kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on and
after the 1st December, 1892.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING

CORPORATION,

F. DE BOVIS,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 30th November, 1892.

Insurances.

THREE IMPORTANT FACTS

ABOUT THE
STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.

1.—HALF A MILLION STERLING
annum is being paid in Death Claims
year by year.

2.—THE FUNDS IN HAND amount to
wards of Seven Million pounds Sterling
and have increased 50 per cent. in the
last 15 years.

3.—THE LIVES who die are annually replaced
by more than double the number of new
carefully selected lives.

DODWELL, CARLILL & CO.,

Agents, Hongkong.

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY,
(LIMITED).

CAPITAL, TAELS 500,000, £83,333.33
EQUAL TO \$1,000,000.
RESERVE FUND..... \$3,200,000.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEX SING, Esq. | LO YEK MOON, Esq.

LOU TSO SHUN, Esq.

MANAGER—HO AMKI.

MARINE RISKS on GOODS, &c., taken
at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the
world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1892.

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY
LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED..... \$1,000,000

The above Company is prepared to accept
MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS,
&c., Policies granted to all Parts of the world
payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN JUEN,

Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE,

No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD, WEST.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1892.

666

KING WO CHEUNG.

COAL MERCHANTS, SHIPS' COMPA-
DORES, STEVEDORES, &c.

Have for Sale a cargo of pure AKAIKI COAL

ex S.S. "LENNOX."

MR. J. W. BOYD, Superintendent at
Kowloon Dock, reports that AKAIKI COAL
GIVES TEN PER CENT. BETTER
RESULTS than any Japanese Coal he has ever
used.

For full particulars as to price, &c.,
Apply to

KING WO CHEUNG.

No. 22, Praya Central.

Hongkong, 17th November, 1892.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

AS we are about to CLOSE our BUSINESS
Voluntarily in HONGKONG and CHINA, it
is hereby notified that any Person or Persons
having Claims against us should apply to the
Undersigned for Payment before the 6th
December, 1892; after that date no Claim will
be entertained. Similarly, any Person or Persons
indebted to the Firm must pay in such Dues
within the prescribed time.

JAIRAZBHOY PEERBOY & CO.

Hongkong, 29th November, 1892. [179]

CAUTION.

ALL SUMS PAID into the Office of the
Hongkong Telegraph are received on
PRINTED FORMS Signed by the Manager,
and no other Person is authorised to receive
the money. Payments made to unauthorised
Persons, or not received on Printed Forms
signed by the Manager cannot be held VALID.

R. FRASER-SMITH,
Editor and Proprietor,
Hongkong Telegraph.

Hongkong, 8th November, 1892.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned hereby give Notice that
they will PROSECUTE any PERSON
or PERSONS found BUYING or SELLING or
POSSESSING CHINESE INDIA RUBBER
SHOES fraudulently bearing the Trade Marks
"LION" and "SCALE" of the NORTH
BRITISH RUBBER COMPANY of EDIN-
BURGH and LONDON.

W. G. HUMPHREYS & CO.,

Bank Building,

Sole Agents for China.

Hongkong, 7th November, 1892. [160]

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

THE LONG RANGE CUP and SPOONS
will be Shot for TO-MORROW, the 3rd
December. Range—700 and 900 yards. Time,
2:45 P.M.

ED. ROBINSON,

Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 28th November, 1892. [161]

THE NORTH AUSTRALIAN BUTCHER-
ING COMPANY, SINGAPORE.

THIS Company butchers only AUSTRALIAN
CATTLE (200 head arrive monthly
by their Steamer "DARWIN"), and they now
supply Steiners with their sea-stocks, &c. of
AUSTRALIAN FRESH BEEF at the same
price as Native Beef.

Orders, either for carcasses or smaller
quantities, will receive immediate execution,
and may be sent through Dubashes (i.e. Ships'
Compradores) or direct to any of the given
addressees.

ASK FOR AUSTRALIAN MEAT AND SEE
THAT YOU GET IT.

OFFICES—14, Raffles Place, Singapore; Tele-
phone No. 113.
BUTCHERING ESTABLISHMENT—Orchard Road;
Telephone No. 184.

CATTLE CAMP—New Harbour; Telephone No.
25.
Singapore, 1st September, 1892.

THE MIKE COAL MINING COMPANY.

THE MIKE COAL is a
BITUMINOUS COAL
of dark reddish colour. For steam purposes
it has been pronounced to be the best and the
most economical of all the Japanese Coals. Its
export is increasing yearly, and the opinions
expressed by several of the largest regular
consumers are in testimony of the excellent
qualities of this coal.

Attention is called to the following advantages
to Shippers' Owners and Captains, who coal their
bunkers direct from the Undersigned:

FRESHNESS of the coal.

UNIFORMITY of quality.

FREEDOM from impurities.

Supply in any quantity on shortest notice.

Quick despatch.

BEST of weight, etc., etc.

MITSU BUSSAN KAISHA;

Sole Agents.

Hongkong, 4th September, 1892. [162]

TAKELEMA COLLIERIES COMPANY,
MOJI.

THIS Company, having appointed
the Undersigned AGENTS for their Coal,
TAKELEMA AKAIKI in Hongkong, they are
prepared to supply Coal ex-Ship, ex-Godown, or
bunkered in Bunkers, at prices to be had on
application.

Copies of Reports and Analysis to be seen in
the Office of the Undersigned.

CHEE ON & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 21st & 22nd, Lee Yuen Street, East.

Hongkong, 10th September, 1892. [163]

SAI-PANG COALS.

THE Undersigned begs to inform the Public
that he has appointed HOY-WO-LOONG
as Agents in Hongkong for the Sale of the
SAI-PANG COALS of the HONDO COAL MINES,
Japan.

KONOMI TAKASUKE,

Owner of the Hondo Coal Mine.

WE the Undersigned are ready to supply
COALS of the above Mines, weight and
quality guaranteed, in any quantity with the
quickest despatch.

HOY-WO-LOONG,

Agents for the Hondo Coal Mine.

Hongkong, 26th August, 1892. [164]

BOARD AND RESIDENCE

CONFORTABLY FURNISHED ROOMS,
with Board and Table Accommodation.

Apply to

Mrs. MATHER,

2, Pedder's Hill.

Hongkong, 6th November, 1892. [165]

PRIVATE BOARD AND RESIDENCE,
GENERAL BUILDING,

(Nos. 18 and 14, Wyndham Street.)

MRS. GILCHRIST'S MANUFACTORIES

for REEDING, BOLSTERS and VINTONS,
and Manufactories for TABLE BOARDERS.

Brisbane, 1st July, 1892. [166]

Intimations.

HONGKONG TRADING CO.

JUST RECEIVED.

COIR MATTINGS (ALL WIDTHS), BILLIARD CLOTH.

TABLE COVERS, ART ANTIMACASSARS, &c.

HONGKONG TRADING COMPANY,
No. 1, 3, 5, & 7, D'Aguilar Street.

[167]

PIANOS

Intimations.

GINGER ALE.

WE have always made good GINGER ALE, and we are now making the best. At various exhibitions and competitions in London and elsewhere, GINGER ALE made by the formula we now use has won 32 Prize MEDALS and CERTIFICATES of MERIT.

In 1890 competed and won against FOUR of the most famed Belfast makers.

The Analyst's report:—

"It is of unexceptionally good quality."

"Particularly pleasant to the taste."

"Decidedly tonic and sustaining."

"In every respect most satisfactory."

ARTHUR HILL HASSAL, M.D.

The ideal temperance beverage.

DAKIN, CRUCKSHANK & Co., LD.
Victoria Dispensary,
Queen's Road Central,
Hongkong, 17th October, 1892.

The Grand Assaut-at-Arms will take place at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, to-night, commencing at 9 o'clock sharp.

The silk ex-Empress of China was delivered at New York on November 30th, being 28 days from Hongkong and 19 days from Yokohama.

A NUMBER of the recalcitrant coolies at the Kowloon Docks resumed work this morning, but the movement was by no means general, and a definite settlement has yet to be arrived at.

We shall deal editorially in our next issue with the autocratic policy pursued by the "Official Phalanx" at the recent meeting of the Legislative Council, in settling the *Appropriations Bill*.

A REGULAR meeting of the Diligentia Lodge of Instruction will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Thursday, the 8th instant, at 5 for 5.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

THE general financial situation in London is by means satisfactory. Scarcely a day passed last week without the announcement of the suspension of some semi-public institution. The position of all speculative concerns, it is not too much to say, is precarious.

MAILS Due:—
French (Yours) overdue.
Australian (*Tisman*) and instant.
Bombay (*Shangha*) 3rd.
Canadian (E. of Japan) 5th.
English (*Matsu*) 5th.
Singapore (*Bonapart*) 5th.
Bombay (*Bisagno*) 8th.

A RECENT census bulletin shows that in 1890 the United States contained 56,386 females for every 100,000 males. In 1880 the proportion of females was 56,544, and ten years earlier 57,807. It thus appears that the excess of males over females is steadily increasing by reason of the larger percentage of males among the immigrants than of females. The females exceed the males more than 5 per cent in the District of Columbia, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In North Dakota the proportion is about five males to four females, and in Montana the ratio is nearly two to one.

SEVERAL correspondents have written to us enquiring the reason why the *Telegraph* was enabled to give information about the strike of the workmen at Kowloon Docks before it occurred, while the *Daily Press* and *China Mail* had not a line about this important matter until after it happened. The answer is very simple. The *China Snaif* and decrepit old *Granny* at the top of Wyndham Street wait until news is sent to them; the *Telegraph* goes out into the highways and byways and looks out for what is going on in the world. Only a difference in method. They are torpid; we are very much alive. That is all.

THE falling off in the import trade in Province Kepel, British North Borneo, is thus explained in the *Gazette* of the 1st ult.:—"The falling off in the import trade is entirely due to causes beyond the control of the traders and is not attributable to any want of activity in the trade of the Province. The fact of the Singapore steamer not calling here one voyage is quite sufficient to account for the decrease of 44,144,54. That the trade is really in a more flourishing condition than before is amply demonstrated by the very satisfactory increase in the exports." The import trade, however, has been hampered besides by want of financial facilities between here and Singapore. For a considerable period the traders were unable to obtain Treasury drafts owing to the failure of Messrs. A. L. Johnston & Co., and the delay in further arrangements being made. They have also had other hardships to contend against which I have already commented upon in my letters of 19th and 20th September. But these drawbacks I feel sure that the decrease since 1890 would have disappeared and a substantial increase have been shown instead. If increased facilities can be given to the traders for remitting money to Singapore it would do more to improve the trade of the Province than anything else."

CALLARD AND BOWSER'S BUTTER SCOTCH, ALMOND ROCK and EVERTON TOFFEE.

CADBURY'S CHOCOLATES in great variety.

CRYSTALLIZED FRUITS, MUSCATELS, ALMONDS AND FIGS.

FANCY BOXES. A large and varied Assortment of ARTISTIC DESIGNS.

XMAS CARDS, ENGLISH, JAPANESE and CHINESE, a splendid selection.

TOM SMITH'S CRACKERS, A LARGE STOCK WELL ASSORTED.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD. THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY, ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841. Hongkong, 10th November, 1892.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

have just received

ex Steamers "BENEDI" and "GANGES" their first shipments of

XMAS CONFECTIONERY Consisting of:—

CHOCOLATE CREMES, VANILLA PRA-LINES, SUGARED ALMONDS, BURNT ALMONDS, NOUGAT, JUJUBES, TURKISH DELIGHT,

PARISIANS,

&c., &c., &c.

DELICIOUS FRUIT JELLIES. ASSORTED PINEAPPLE, LIME, DAMSON, GUAVA, RASPBERRY, STRAWBERRY, PLUM, &c.

CALLARD AND BOWSER'S BUTTER SCOTCH, ALMOND ROCK and EVERTON TOFFEE.

CADBURY'S CHOCOLATES in great variety.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1892.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE number of Methodists in the British army and navy is 22,693.

THE Agents (Messrs. Dodwell, Carrill & Co.) inform us that the Northern Pacific Steamship Co.'s steamer *Victoria* arrived at Tacoma, Wash., on the 30th ult.

Judge—You were begging on the public streets, and yet you had \$20 in your pocket.

Prisoner—Yes, Judge. I may not be as industrious as some, y' honor, but I'm no spend-thrift.

A REGULAR meeting of St. John's Lodge No. 618, S.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Monday, the 12th instant, at 8 for 8.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

Judge—"You are acquitted, only I would recommend you to keep out of bad company for the future."

Prisoner—"Thanks, my lord; in fact, I have made up my mind not to come here any more."

Watts—"Are you aware that if a man were as strong in proportion to his weight as a beetle he could push a weight of 131 tons?"

Potts—"First time I ever heard of it, and I don't see much in it, now I have heard of it. If those scientific sharpards had only figured out how much of a pull a man might have under such conditions, it would have been of some interest."

Is there nobody commercially interested in the welfare of Hongkong courageous enough to take up the cudgels against the dangerous petroleum tanks now approaching completion near the Cosmopolitan Dock at Sam-ku-po under the auspices of a local German firm? The Government will regret its folly in sanctioning this unnecessary danger. If any responsible citizen will give us a lead, the *Telegraph* will be glad to throw its active influence in the scale to crush this latest foreign invasion.

The ex-Empress Eugenie is white-haired, and walks with the aid of a stick.

The Grand Lodge of Free Masons of Illinois will arrange for a Congress of the Masonic Grand Lodges throughout the world to be held in Chicago during August of next year. Each Grand Lodge of the different States and those of foreign countries will be invited to send five representatives. These delegates will be received and entertained by the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

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A custom of the Chinese trade deserves mention. In selling their goods the Mongolian merchant in silver-ware gives the weight of the metal, its fineness and its value as bullion; and then as a separate item, the cost of the workmanship. Thus on one day in purchasing a pair of corded bracelets my bill ran as follows:—

Silver, 48 oz. 85 per cent. fine, \$4.20 Mex. Workmanship, 2.15

60.25 Mex.

The first item is mathematically correct every time, and is of great aid to your "Uncle." I wonder how it would work with Simon Muhr at Tiffany's?

E. B.

RETROSPECT.

A happy pair, each young and fair,
Sat willing time away;
About his face her golden hair.
The breeze blew in play.

He snatched a kiss without consent.
And ere he really knew it
He was engaged, though never meant,
This model youth to do it.

At last the happy day went past,
When they were duly married,
The honeymoon flew onward fast,
Then dismal grew, and arid.

At first he called his duck, darling,
And later "Will" and "Willie,"
While he responded to her snarling,
Some adverb strong, with silly.

From this please draw the only moral.
Beware when a girl says "won't!"
And even though her lips of coral
Say marry! Dear boy, don't!

CAM.

Hongkong December 2nd, 1892.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 30th ult. There were present—H. E. Sir W. Robinson, K.C.M.G., Governor; Mr. T. M. O'Brien (Colonial Secretary); Mr. G. J. Leach (Acting Attorney-General); Mr. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works); Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart (Registrar-General); Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes (Colonial Treasurer); Comr. R. Murray Rumsey (Harbour Master); Messrs. T. H. Whitehead, C. P. Chater, E. R. Bellairs, and H. Kal.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Several formal matters of minor importance were transacted without discussion.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL, 1893.

THE LOAN.

The Colonial Secretary—Bring now in Committee on the Appropriation Bill of 1893. I beg to move to leave to move the first item of \$4,679,000 on account of public debt. I mentioned in

Finance Committee that I was aware there might be a difference of opinion as to part of this vote. I refer to the part which makes provision for a charge of \$40,000 interest on the proposed new loan. I said in Finance Committee that I was aware that there might be some difference of opinion as to that item, and I suggested that the most appropriate opportunity for any discussion which might be necessary on the question would be at the end of the year.

It appears that the *Petrel* is on the rocks off Sandy Bay, at a point S. E. of Mallowall Island and N. E. of Fly Rock, that was badly grounded, and that she has taken in a large quantity of water. A steam-launch and two tongkangs were immediately sent off to her assistance, and afterwards Capt. Griffiths, of the *Enterprise*, left Labuan for the same place. The *Petrel* belongs to Messrs. Hin & Co., and it is stated that only a large sum of money had been spent in repairing her.

CELESTINE SILVER-WORK.

Silver is the Orient what gold is to the West. To the artist, the scholar and the collector, it is the King of all the precious metals. Its popularity is not due to its cheapness. Jade, which rivals silver in public esteem, is much more expensive than gold. There may be another reason for the small use of gold as an ornament by the Chinese. In the designation of rank and title a gold button stands at the bottom of the list. Then, on the other hand, yellow gold is the Imperial color, and none but those around the Son of Heaven are allowed to use it for wearing and other purposes.

Silver jewelry and carlories in China are universal. The poorest coolie's wife has usually an elegant bracelet and ear-rings. In circles and bazaars the number of silver articles is legion. The greatest manufacturing centre is Canton; but Amoy, Foo-chow, Nanking and Peking possess artists and guilds whose workmanship is famous over the empire. Hours may be spent profitably in studying the designs of these eastern artificers. One class of these would be the delight of collectors. It consists of miniature reproductions of features of daily life, and is adapted for earings, watch-charms, pendants and bangle attachments. Among the more familiar objects are the pagoda, sampan (or native boat), junk, the sedan-chair, the small-footed lady's shoe, the Goddess of Mercy, the Celestial Poodle, the King of the fishes, the sitting Buddha, the dragon, the flying serpent, the beaded bone, the tiger, lion, horse, pig, buffalo, elephant, turtle, crocodile, monkey, cat and dog. The largest does not exceed two inches in length; from this size they diminish down to dainty little objects no larger than a grain of corn. The work and finish are admirable, the features and hair of the human beings and animals, the scales of the fish and crocodiles, the markings of the turtle's carapace, being reproduced with the highest care and skill.

Another class consists of imitation cordage. The metal is solid, but the surface is cleverly wrought out that at first sight each piece seems a rope, crocheted cord or braid. Some are as fine as sewing silk, while others are as thick as clothes lines. The silver is alloyed with a small percentage of copper, to increase its hardness and to allow the fine carving and graving impossible in the softer substance of pure silver. These cords are used for bracelets, anklets, necklaces, belts, sword-hilts, and horse-harness. Though stiff they are not rigid, and can be bent in every direction. They may be made into knots and tied without breaking.

A third class comprises household ornaments, such as match-boxes, ash-cans, joss-stick bowls, sandal-wood urns, plates for opium pipes, button-boxes, and so on without end. It is of the same general type and about the same value as those made in America and Europe.

A fourth class includes flagon work and tissues made from fine silver-wire, and is marked by the highest skill and beauty. It is a favorite kind of work among the Chinese and has been made for centuries. There is but little doubt that Marco Polo brought specimens of it to Europe from Nanking, and in this manner aided in the after development of the guilds of Italy and France. The designs at times are simply marvellous. One from Foo-chow consisted of a liqueur vessel. It was so perfectly made that the glass looked as if it might blow away

if it were to be disturbed.

His Excellency—Are you prepared to move an amendment, Mr. Whitehead?

Hon. T. H. Whitehead—No.

Item passed.

PERSONS.

The item of \$79,400 for pensions was passed without discussion.

OFFICIAL SALARIES.

The Colonial Secretary—I beg to move that the item \$41,339 for the Governor and Legislative Council stand part of the Bill.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Hon. C. P. Chater—Sir, I must say I am

rather surprised at what the Colonial Secretary has just informed me, that the duty devolves on me to propose that the report of the Finance Committee be adopted by the Council.

The Colonial Secretary—Pardon me. I wish to make a correction which I am sure the hon. member will allow me to make. That is with the hon. member, if he wished, to move an amendment to the motion I have made. He thereupon asked me if I was going to move the adoption of the report, to which I replied, "Certainly not." It is not a document which requires to be adopted by the Council.

It is an extreme step and one which could be justified by nothing, but necessarily. Nor were we proposing to bring the report of the Finance Committee forward in the most forcible way, they can order that, as soon as possible, we may get some reduction. When the colony is over-offered and over-manned, surely it is possible to effect some economy.

The Colonial Secretary—My hon. friend has said it may be necessary to have a year or two in which a different charge from that of 1890 will be made. I beg to move to increase it to give amounts to be paid by the colony in consequence of such a change as may be made for a considerable period, that it was impossible for him or any one else to say what the rate of exchange would be at the end of the year, and that on the whole I was not prepared to alter the rate at which the item had been entered in the estimates of the Supply Bill.

His Excellency—Are you prepared to move an amendment, Mr. Whitehead?

Hon. T. H. Whitehead—No.

Item passed.

PERSONS.

The

land sales for 1889, 1890, and 1891 was \$1,907,769; in 1891, it was \$1,973,540; for 1888 it was only \$1,557,300, and in 1887 it was \$1,479,485. As already stated, the average revenue, including land sales, for the five years ending 1888, was \$1,202,407. As compared with this the revenue, excluding land sales, for 1891—which we are told was the year of terrible depression—was \$1,973,540, which shows an increase over the average, including land sales, for the five years ending 1888 of more than 50 per cent. So much for the past and present. As regards the coming year I should state in the first instance that the revenue, which has been put at \$1,965,360, has been estimated with great caution in view of the fact that we are about to contract a loan. It was obviously my duty in the face of that fact to be very careful that my estimate of revenue should be moderate, and practically certain of realisation. I have very confidence that it will be realised, and I shall be disappointed if it is not exceeded. But moderate as it is that estimate of revenue shows a surplus over the estimated ordinary expenditure. The estimated ordinary expenditure, however, is much larger than that of any previous year. As I stated when moving the first reading of the Bill, the Supply Bill for 1893 provides for loss on exchange of a sum of \$77,651. In excess of the provision made in the Supply Bill for 1892. It also includes an entirely new item of \$40,000 to meet charges in connection with the proposed loan, a larger provision for civil pensions by \$5,400, and a more liberal provision for Hospital expenses by \$7,421, and yet the estimate of revenue shows a surplus over expenditure which there is every reason to hope may be more than realised. Really, sir, I can see no ground for alarm and foreboding, but rather ground for satisfaction. But, sir, the unofficial members of the Colony must be in a bad way because your Excellency has said a loan is necessary. Certainly a loan is necessary, but does it follow that the Colony is in a bad way financially? Not at all. For what purpose is the loan required? Not for our ordinary expenditure but expenditure on Public Works Extraordinary. I should like to know in what country in the world it is found possible to construct extraordinary public works of the great magnitude of those now in progress in Hongkong out of current revenue. Has it been found possible hitherto in Hongkong itself? Certainly not. It has been found possible to bring them to their present point only by utilising the balances accruing from our previous loan. In the fact that we are about to do what would be done in similar circumstances—and properly done—in every country in the world. So far from the Colony being in a bad condition financially, I am of opinion that when due provision is made, as it should be made, for Public Works Extraordinary by a loan, the Colony will be in a better and a sounder position financially than it has ever been. But assuming for the sake of argument—although I do not think it for a single moment—that the unofficial members are correct in their estimate of the financial position, what shall I then say of their action? They say, in fact, here is a magnificent Colony going to wreck and ruin, and we must try a most drastic remedy to save it, at all hazards. Out and how do they propose to do it? Simply by reducing certain official salaries. A what amount will this reduction give them wherewith to save the Colony from financial ruin? Your Excellency will scarcely credit me when I tell you that the amount which this heroic remedy will place at their disposal for the salvation of the Colony will fall far short of the modest sum of \$6,000. The gross amount of the increase to salaries granted under the general scheme in 1881 was \$51,087. If this increase is taken away, the right of making remittances at 4/5, the right of paying while on leave at 4/5, and pensions at 4/5 to the dollar, which were withdrawn conditionally on the ground of his increase when the increase was granted, will as a matter of course have to be restored. I cannot state the exact extent to which the apparent gross saving will thereby be reduced, but it will be very considerable, and it is probable that the net saving would not exceed \$5,000 per annum; so that, according to that, the colony is sliding down a steep slope towards financial ruin, and its fatal course is to be arrested by the immediate reduction of certain salaries and the consequent saving of \$6,000 per annum. Was there ever a more impotent and lame conclusion? I am almost tempted to ask, can they really be so earnest? True, your Excellency intends to effect certain economies in salaries when opportunity offers by the occurrence of vacancies, but why? Because you consider the colony is on the road to ruin? Not at all; but because you consider, say, you have more than once stated, that the Civil Service is over manned and the clerical service in some instances overpaid; and because wasteful and excessive expenditure is wrong in any circumstances whatever, and you will, at the earliest possible moment, without being guilty of a breach of good faith without prejudice to vested interest, effect retrenchment. But if your Excellency concurred in the view which has been taken by the unofficial members of the financial position of the Colony what would your duty be then? Could you, sir, be content with the proposed reduction of certain official salaries producing only a saving of \$6,000 per annum? Would you have considered you had done your duty when you had transmuted this map in the face of the Niagara of impending catastrophe? Certainly not. You would find it your duty to approach the subject in a serious and business-like manner. Obviously the effective remedy would be to recast our whole expenditure and revise the whole scheme of our taxation and to consider whether some class of the community were not bearing a disproportionately light share of the general burden. I do not say that the necessity for such action may never arise, but I do most emphatically deny that it has arisen or that there are any indications that it is impending or near at hand, and if unfortunately it should arrive your Excellency will meet it with measures which will be at once both equitable and adequate. We have heard a good deal lately about the financial element a larger share in the government of the Colony, but those who favour that view cannot but deplore the action taken by the unofficial members on this occasion, for assuredly whatever else it may be done, it does not bode any marked capacity for administration. They have in the first instance misjudged the financial position, and they have in the second instance been content to suggest a remedy which would be utterly inadequate if their judgment of the position were correct. It is almost superfluous for me to add that they could not possibly have chosen a more inopportune time for their ill-omened declaration. We are just about to go on the market for a loan, and their erroneous estimate of the position of the colony is eminently calculated to prejudice the credit of the colony. If our loan is floated on less advantageous terms than would otherwise have been obtainable, the colony will have to pay the unofficial members for it. I can only hope, sir, that the facts and figures I have quoted may serve in some measure to avert the natural consequences of their ill-advised action. It is my desire to treat the unofficial members with all possible courtesy and respect but I would have done wrong had I allowed that to interfere with my discharge of an imperative public duty, and there is no escape from the conclusion that is proposing the extreme step of reducing certain official salaries.

they have made a proposal which as they have said themselves can be justified only by their conviction that the finances of the Colony are in a condition to call for such reduction, and which at the same time would have been ludicrously inadequate had their conviction been well founded. At the same time in so doing they have made a serious tactical blunder and they have done what in them lay to act at a singularly inopportune juncture in such a manner as to injure the credit of the Colony. For the reasons I have stated the Government will vote against the amendment.

Hon. C. P. Chater—I have listened with very great interest to the remarks of the hon. Colonial Secretary and there are one or two points which I should like to address to the Council upon. The first one is the statement in his speech to the effect that the salaries of the officials having been decided upon by the Secretary of State the officials were not going to reduce their salaries until the Secretary of State decided otherwise. A second or two previous to the speech of the hon. Colonial Secretary the hon. member who represents the Chamber of Commerce read out the very words of Lord Knutsford, wherein he distinctly states that the salaries were ratified on the understanding that they should be reconsidered year by year, that they should be reconsidered at the end of each year for the following year. I contend that it is only in this way that the surplus over the estimated ordinary expenditure, however large it is, can be justified. A firm of women tea merchants in London owns in Ceylon an estate on which only women are employed as tasters, blenders, packers, etc. It takes women to get up a tea.

According to intelligence received at Marseilles from Aden, the slave trade on the east coast of Africa is again increasing, owing to the high prices now offered for slaves.

The Pope is receiving numerous letters from prelates throughout Europe praying that Columbus shall be canonised. The letters have been referred to the Congregation of Rites.

A report comes from Kiff that the Government has purchased all the railways in the south western part of Russia, and that the formal transfer will take place on January 1st.

A pneumatic tube connects Paris with Berlin. It is used for postal purposes, and makes it possible for a letter mailed in Paris to be delivered in Berlin in thirty-five minutes.

A receipt for charity work has been erected in Kensal Green Cemetery, London. It is a handsome structure of Caen stone, decorated with Sienna and rouge royal marbles.

A curious circumstance, says the New York Tribune, in connection with the recent epidemic of cholera at Hamburg, was the departure of all the birds from the city a few days prior to the outbreak.

At the opening of the Jaffa-Jerusalem Railway a curious Moslem rite was observed. Three sheep were slaughtered and their blood sprinkled on the rails before the first train was allowed to proceed upon its journey.

Arabi Pasha has written to the London Times that his eyes and his general health are suffering from the climate of the spicy Isle of Ceylon, where he has lived as an exiled prisoner since his failure to secure the independence of Egypt from British domination.

The thrifty Scotchmen who manage the affairs of the Palsley recently discovered a new means of turning an honest bawbee to the town's benefit. They have leased the public street lamp-posts to an advertising firm to be fitted up with frames for the display of advertising posters.

While the zone tariff system on the Hungarian State railways has proved to be an excellent thing for the people, it is not an unmixed evil for now the Minister of Finance asks for an appropriation of \$15,000,000 to pay for the extra cars, locomotives and tracks to accommodate the increased traffic.

There are now over 100,000 Jews in the Holy Land. The Jewish population there at present is larger than it has been at any other time since the end of the first century of the Christian era. Nearly four-fifths of them all have gone thither from other countries within the last few years.

Some English newspaper women wanted to find out whether the people who sing in the London streets make a good living or not, put on a disguise and, taking a guitar, went out to try it for themselves. After singing and playing for an hour and a half they had collected 7s 4d. And they were only amateurs at that, and with no previous experience in playing the people.

In the interests of Ireland's struggles for Home Rule, and Irishmen's efforts to possess their native land, the fact that Scotchmen too, are with equal earnestness, but perhaps with less demonstrative enthusiasm, engaged in a similar crusade, is apt to be pretty generally overlooked, except when some especially significant turn of affairs brings it up for the moment. Scotland wants Home Rule, and Scotchmen are working for it, and have been for a number of years, and never more earnestly than now.

"We'll have the land that bore us, At our fathers had to bear us."

As a motto which traveller saw a few weeks ago worked out in evergreens across the wall of a country school in Sutherlandshire.

DEAFNESS ABSOLUTELY CURED.—A Gentleman who cured himself of Deafness and Noises in the Head, of 74 years standing, by a new method, will be pleased to send full particulars free.

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